

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 844

By Finney R.

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Betsy Sohns Elliott upon her selection as 2008-2009 Middle School Teacher of the Year for the Sevier County School System and the East Tennessee Region.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Betsy Elliott is one such estimable educator who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity during her illustrious tenure at Boyds Creek Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Elliott has recently been selected as the 2008-2009 Middle School Teacher of the Year for both the Sevier County School System and the East Tennessee region, an honor most befitting her outstanding career as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, she attained her prestigious title by first being selected as her school's most outstanding teacher before Sevier County educators chose her as the system's superior middle school teacher from among the other honored teachers of all of the other schools in the system; from that elite group, Mrs. Elliott was named the Regional Teacher of the Year for East Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Betsy Elliott has been a classroom teacher for twenty-seven years, including her years of service at Boyds Creek, where she has taught sixth, seventh, and eighth grades; and

WHEREAS, a lifelong student herself, Mrs. Elliott attended the University of Tennessee at Martin and received her bachelor's degree in elementary education and child psychology from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville, before earning a master's degree in elementary

education from the University of Scranton and her education specialist degree in curriculum and instruction from Lincoln Memorial University; and

WHEREAS, Betsy Elliott serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike at Boyds Creek Elementary School, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Elliott epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Betsy Elliott is most grateful for the love and companionship she shares with her husband, John E. Elliott, and for the support she receives from her children, Ginger Elliott Smith and her husband, Adam; Dr. Brooke Elliott Foulk and her husband, Jonathan; Jay Elliott; and her foster children; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Betsy Elliott epitomizes the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Mrs. Betsy Sohns Elliott on being named the 2008-2009 Middle School Teacher of the Year for the Sevier County School System and the East Tennessee Region, commend her exceptional service to the children of Boyds Creek Elementary School, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.